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NPIC/R-850/64
September 1964

PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT

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7 Pages

IMPACT AREA KAMCHATKA PENINSULA, USSR

Declass Review by NIMA/DOD



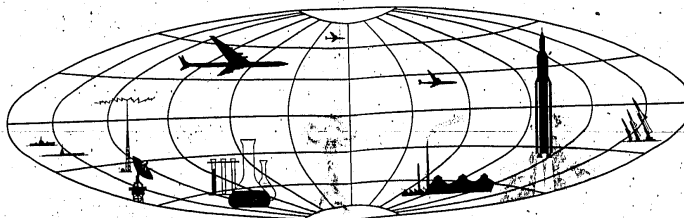
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NPIC/R-850/64

IMPACT AREA, KAMCHATKA PENINSULA, USSR

The Kamchatka Peninsula impact area (Figure 1), a barren and hilly region with elevations ranging from 200 to 800 feet above sea level, contains 80 craters/earth depressions and has seven instrumentation sites in its vicinity. This report locates the craters/earth depressions, discusses their relative age and size, and considers the direct line-of-sight possibilities from the instrumentation sites to the impact area (Figure 2).

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Craters/Earth Depressions

Clustered around the center of the impact area, 35 nautical miles south-southwest of Uka Airfield at 57-22-30N 161-43-00E, are 80 craters/earth depressions which were observed on photography of [redacted] (Figures 3 - 7). Forty-four of these can be identified as craters, the comparative ages and sizes of which are given in Tables 1 and 2. These listings indicate that the majority of the large- and medium-sized craters are of a recent age, while almost all of the old and less recent craters are small in size. The remaining 36 depressions, although con-

sidered to be probable craters, do not permit further analysis because of photographic limitations.

Table 1. Comparative Age of Craters
(numbers are keyed to Figures 3 - 7)

Recent (appear white in tone; no vegetation)	Less recent (not as white in tone; definite indications of vegetation)	Old (definite crater with depth but tip no longer distinct; heavily overgrown with vegetation)
1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12-17, 19, 20, 24, 25, 29, 36, 37	2, 5, 7, 9, 21, 22, 28, 31-35, 39, 40, 42	11, 18, 23, 26, 27, 30, 38, 41, 43, 44
Total Craters: 39	15	10

Table 2. Comparative Size of Craters
(numbers keyed to Figures 3 - 7)

Large (diameter approximately 80 feet)	Medium (diameter approximately 65 feet)	Small (diameter approximately 50 feet)
1, 6, 11-14, 37	2, 3, 8, 10, 18-20, 27	1, 5, 7, 9, 15-17, 21-26, 29-35, 39-41
Total Craters: 7	8	29

Initial photographic coverage of the impact area occurred in [redacted] at which time no craters or earth depressions appeared to be present although snow cover precluded detailed analysis; traces of a small sod landing strip were noted. The first crater was observed in the area on photography of [redacted] the majority of the larger craters were noted in [redacted] although snow cover again

*Although the Kamchatka Peninsula is volcanically active, the last eruption having sufficient force to hurl large quantities of debris into the impact area took place in 1956.

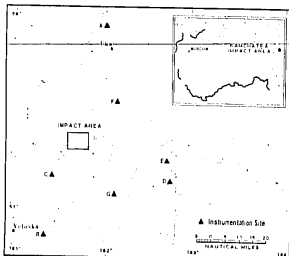


FIGURE 1. LOCATION MAP.

precluded detailed analysis. Available photography does not permit a more specific chronological evaluation.

Line-of-Sight From Instrumentation Sites

Of the seven instrumentation sites referenced in NPIC/R-215/64, 1/ Sites B, C, F, and G appear to have a direct line-of-sight to the impact area, as indicated by the graphical representation of topography shown in Figure 2. Sites F and G, previously reported as probable because of snow cover, now appear as confirmed instrumentation sites. No new sites or other types of equipment were observed in or near the impact area.

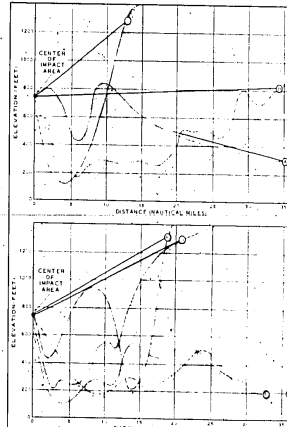


FIGURE 2. DIRECT LINE-OF-SIGHT FROM INSTRUMENTATION SITES TO IMPACT AREA.

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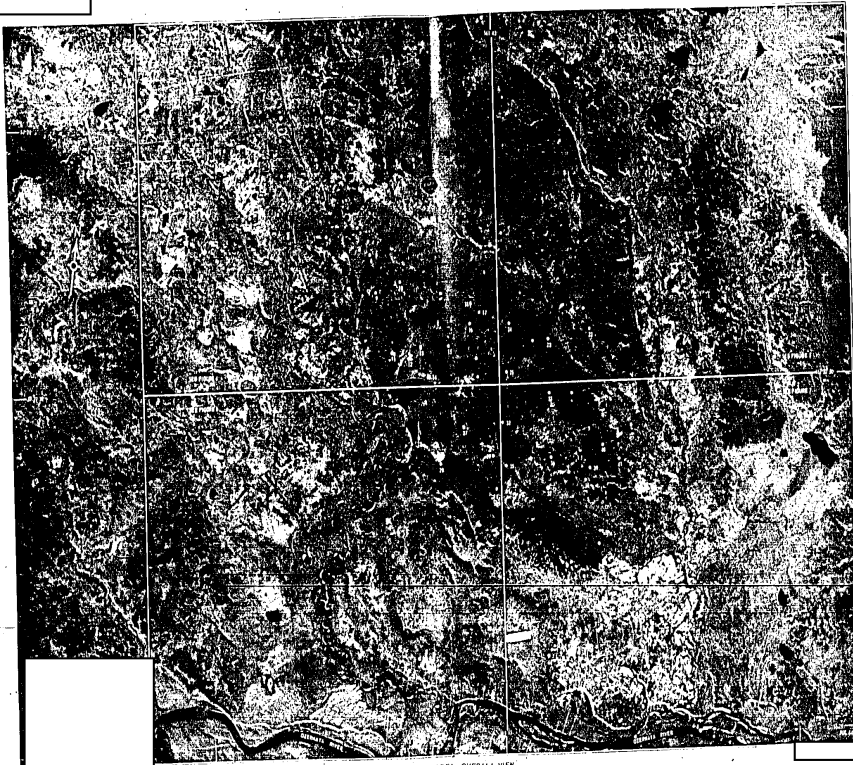


FIGURE 3. IMPACT AREA: OVERALL VIEW.

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FIGURE 4. IMPACT AREA; NORTHWEST SECTION (CRATERS 1 TO 18).

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FIGURE 5. IMPACT AREA, NORTHEAST SECTION (CRATERS 19 TO 25).

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FIGURE 6. IMPACT AREA: SOUTHWEST SECTION (CRATERS 24 TO 31).

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FIGURE 7. IMPACT AREA: SOUTHEAST SECTION (CRATERS 32 TO 40)

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REFERENCES

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PHOTOGRAPHY



MAPS OR CHARTS

SAC, US Air Target Chart, Series 200, Sheet 0132-21A, 1st ed, Oct 58, scale 1:200,000 (SECRET)

SAC, US Air Target Chart, Series 200, Sheet 0132-19A, 1st ed, May 50, scale 1:200,000 (SECRET)

SAC, US Air Target Chart, Series 200, Sheet 0132-14H, 2d ed, Sep 63, scale 1:200,000 (SECRET)

DOCUMENTS

1. NPIC/R-215/64, JTMR Terminal Range Facilities, Kanchaku, USSR, Mar 64 (TOP SECRET [REDACTED])

REQUIREMENT

NPIC PROJECT

N-15/64

TOP SECRET [REDACTED]